

JOHN ENSIGN
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United States Senate
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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2805

April 21, 2004

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website: ensign.senate.gov

Diane Atkinson
Congressional Liaison Specialist
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW #8-C453
Washington, D.C. 20554

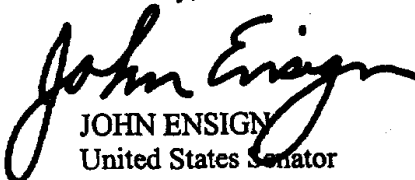
Dear Ms. Atkinson:

I have received the enclosed correspondence from a constituent, Dr. L. Alan Johnson, regarding the Broadband Power Line (BPL). Dr. Johnson is concerned about the impact that the BPL may have on shortwave radio broadcasts.

Due to the desire of my office to be responsive to all inquiries, your consideration of the enclosed correspondence will be greatly appreciated. Please reply directly to Dr. Johnson, and forward a copy of that response to me, marked to the attention of Matthew McCullough in my Washington office.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,


JOHN ENSIGN
United States Senator

JE/jmm

Enclosure

OET
BPL
1585 0437

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18 MAY 2004 RCUD

iawrmmsg.txt
Capitol Correspond
Incoming Email Message

Constituent ID: 43399

Dr. L. Alan Johnson
Sierra Eye Associates 950 Ryland Street
Reno, NV 89502

Activity Created: 4/6/04
Activity ID: 152311
Interest Code(s): CONT-BPL

Incoming Message:

Subject Desc: Commerce

Date Received: 4/4/2004 3:03:58 PM

Alan Johnson
2490 Sharon way
Reno, NV 89509

April 4, 2004

The Honorable John Ensign
United States Senate
364 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2805

Senator Ensign:

I am writing to ask for your support against the FCC's efforts to implement BPL - a method of providing high speed Internet access over existing power lines (Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems, ET Docket No. 04-37). Although I am in favor of increasing competition in the telecommunications market, I am concerned that the implementation of BPL will cause significant interference to existing high frequency (shortwave) communications. Such communications include military, FEMA and amateur radio emergency communications. Of most concern to me, is the potential impact BPL will have on my ability to receive alternative news sources from international shortwave broadcasters. Although such services are available via the Internet, listening via a computer is not as portable and convenient as using a portable shortwave radio. I feel that more testing is required to assess the degree of interference that BPL will produce to the above services and that stricter guidelines regarding such interference should be imposed.

Sincerely,

Alan Johnson